The Hanna Newsletter

Missionaries in Taiwan with Baptist Mid-Missions

"Good news from a far country" - Prov. 25:25

Monday, September 8, 2008

Dear Praying Friends,

We are ready to return to Taiwan today. All of our goodbyes have been said; all of our boxes and suitcases are packed and ready to send by plane, ship, and mail. It has been a long time away from our church and ministry in Taiwan and we are anxious to resume ministries and to renew relationships with friends, church brothers and sisters, and ministry co-workers. But we were sad last week to drive away from BJU and leave our son behind. Still, we are confident that he is in the place of God's will and care. We were thrilled with God's answer to prayer in giving him good roommates and hallmates, as well as friends to look in on him occasionally from town and at Morningside Baptist Church where he is attending. Please pray for his adjustment to a new environment and for his studies and spiritual growth. For those interested in communicating with him, here is his contact information:

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As we conclude our extended furlough of 15 months, we can now look back and evaluate how well we met our five furlough goals (all beginning with "R"). (1) To Report. We had the opportunity of being in all of our supporting churches but one. We put 25,000 miles on our automobile and Matt logged another 35,000 miles by air in ministry travel. (2) To Retool. We attended two annual BMM "family conferences" in which we were refreshed spiritually. Matt took two block courses at BJU as well as a correspondence course, all on ministry topics. (3) To Recruit New Missionary Workers. A growing team of missionary workers is coalescing at Cornerstone Baptist Church. We also met with several individuals and couples during our travels who have expressed serious interest in future ministry in Taiwan. (4) To Recruit New Financial and Prayer Supporters. We thank the Lord for substantial increases in support by existing supporting churches and for new individual supporters who have joined our support team. But we have been disappointed in our attempts to present our ministry in churches unfamiliar with our ministry and to gain new supporting churches. The state of the economy may be a factor in this failure. We now have pledged support amounting to 80% of our official support estimate. We will continue to trust the Lord to provide the remaining funds as needed. (5) To Return. Although our furlough lasted longer than we originally planned, we are now on the way back to our field and ministry. We thank the Lord for his grace, help, and provision during the fifteen months we have been in the U.S.

Please pray for the following needs as we return to Taiwan. (1) Pray for quick re-adjustment to the time zone, climate, and language of Taiwan. (2) Pray for the "Cornerstone Team" of missionaries which we will be joining. Other team members include Tad & Hannah Wychopen, the Pat and Mary Delaney family, and Dolly Wong. Ask the Lord to give us unity, guidance, and grace. (3) Pray for Marla as she starts up the new school year homeschooling our girls, Rose (11th grade) and Beth (9th grade). (4) Pray for guidance as we seek to find a larger apartment in the near future (yes, we need to move again!). Our current apartment is too small to provide space for living, home-schooling, and Matt's office. (5) Pray for the Lord to guide the church leadership in the process of finding a larger meeting facility for Cornerstone Baptist Church at a reasonable rental price. The church is currently at maximum capacity.

Finally, we thank each one of you that has encouraged us, prayed with us, counseled us, and blessed us during our year+ of travels around the U.S. We thank God for you.

In Christ,

the Hannas

Matt. Marla, Luke, Rose, and Beth